

**[Report 1958] / Medical Officer of Health, Cheltenham (Union) R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Cheltenham (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1958

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/kszdufs7>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

*Libary*

HEALTH  
A 31 JUL 58  
CR. 23

RURAL DISTRICT OF CHELTENHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

Public Health Staff



Medical Officer of Health:

STEPHEN KNIGHT  
M.B., B.S. (Lond). M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Lexham Lodge, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.  
Telephone: Cheltenham 55746.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

E.H. ROSSER  
M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors


L. GROGAN  
A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Certified Public Health Inspector  
Certified Inspector of Meats and Food

F.H. LEWIS M.A.P.H.I.

M.M. WIDDOWS A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Certified Public Health Inspectors

J.H. WRIGHT M.B.E., M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I. (Part-time)



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29102558>

<u>Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area</u>	2
<u>Extracts from vital statistics for the year:-</u>	
Live Births	2
Still Births	2
Infant Deaths	2
Maternal Deaths	2
Deaths	2
Population	3
Birth Rate	3
Death Rate	3
Infant Mortality	3
Cancer	3
Causes of Death	3
Birth, Death and Infantile Mortality Rates) in the District for the last five years )	4
<u>Infectious Diseases</u>	
Infectious Diseases notified during 1958 (excluding tuberculosis)	5
Scarlet Fever	5
Whooping Cough	5
Poliomyelitis	5
Measles	5
Diphtheria	5
Food Poisoning	6
Diphtheria Immunisation	6
Vaccination against Smallpox	6
Vaccination against Whooping Cough	6
Tuberculosis	7
New Cases	7
Deaths	7
Tuberculosis Register	7
<u>Public Health</u>	
Food and Drugs Act 1938 - Clean Food and Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.	7
National Assistance Acts 1948	7
<u>General Provision for Health Services:-</u>	
Laboratory Facilities	8
Home Help Service	8
Nursing in the Home	8
Child Welfare Centres	9
<u>Housing Act 1957.</u>	
Progress in dealing with Unfit Houses	9
<u>Water Supply</u>	9
Water supply (continued)	10
<u>Report of Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor</u>	
Housing	11
Temporary Housing	11
Repairs to Council Houses	12
Other activities in Housing	13
Housing Act 1957.	14
Improvement Grants	14
Building Byelaws	15
Public Health	15/16
Inspection of Foods	16
Methods of Disposal of Condemned Food	17
Food Hygiene Regulations	17
Food and Drugs Act 1955 (Sec.16(1))	17
Milk and Dairies Regulations	18
Tents, vans and sheds	18
Factories Act 1937.	18
Sewage Disposal	18
Water supplies	19
Refuse and Salvage	19

Public Rights of Way	20
Petroleum (Regulation) Act 1928 and 1936.	20
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.	20
Loans for House Purchase	21
Summary	21/22

CHELTHENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1958 on the environmental hygiene and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District.

I am indebted to the staff for help in the preparation of the report and to Mr. E.H. Rosser, Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, for the sections dealing with the work of his department.

The Health statistics are favourable to the Rural District in all respects and are evidence of the well-being of the community.

As a consequence of the lifting, in 1958, of the Government embargo on capital expenditure the Council received consent to proceed with the scheme of sewerage for the Reddings area.

During the year the Council completed the THIRD instalment of its programme for dealing with unfit houses. Of the 38 houses dealt with, Demolition Orders were made in 23 cases and satisfactory Undertakings accepted in 15 cases.

I am very pleased to be able to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council for their kindness and consideration and my colleagues for support and co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and  
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health

July, 1959.

# CHELTHENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area ( in acres )	...	81,940
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces )	...	29,250
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1958)	...	9,068
Rateable Value (at 31.12.58)	...	£386,439
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	£1,533

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

#### LIVE BIRTHS Total Male Female

Legitimate	521	256	265
Illegitimate	21	9	12

Total 542 265 277

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	18.5
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	0.99
Corrected Birth Rate (18.5 x 0.99)	18.3

#### STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	11	7	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Total 11 7 4

Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	19.8
Still-births rate per 1,000 population	0.37

TOTAL live and still-births 553

#### INFANT DEATHS

(Deaths of Infants under one year of age)

Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	10	5	5

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	18.4
" " " " " " " -legitimate	17.2
" " " " " " " -illegitimate	47.7
Neo Natal " " " " " " " ..	12.9
(first four weeks)	

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 3.87%

MATERNAL deaths (including abortion) NIL

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births Nil

#### DEATHS 263 137 126

Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.9
Area Comparability Factor(deaths)	1.14
Corrected Death Rate (8.9 x 1.14)	10.14

## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1958 is 29,250, an increase of 780 persons over the previous year. The influx of people into the District has been of this order for a number of years.

The natural increase in population, excess of births over deaths was 279.

## BIRTH RATE

Births numbered 542, an increase of 38 on the previous year and the Birth Rate 18.5 compares favourably with both the national rate 16.4 and the county rate 17.11.

## DEATH RATE

There were 263 deaths, 24 more than in 1957 but the Death Rate 8.9 although a little higher than last year is lower than that for the county (10.93) and also that for the country (11.7.) as a whole.

## INFANT MORTALITY

Only 10 infants under one year of age died compared with 15 such deaths in the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate 18.4 being lower than the County Rate 19.8, and the National Rate 22.6.

## CANCER

Forty three persons died of cancer, 3 fewer than the previous year. There were 7 deaths (5 male) from cancer of the lung.

## CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	1
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	3	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	8
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	32
18. Coronary disease, angina	25	16
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	2
20. Other heart disease	29	23
21. Other circulatory diseases	6	6
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	3	8
24. Bronchitis	7	2
25. Other disease of the respiratory system	1	1

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	3	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	7
33. Motor vehicle accidents	6	-
34. All other accidents	1	4
35. Suicide	3	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
Total ... ..	137	126

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES  
IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.6	17.3	16.7	17.7	18.5
Death Rate ( - do - )	9.1	10.1	11.0	8.4	8.9
Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year) ( per 1,000 live births)	23.0	24.5	15.4	29.7	18.4
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month) (per 1,000 live births)	16.0	22.3	8.8	23.8	12.9

FOR COMPARISON, THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE  
MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ETC.  
ARE GIVEN BELOW

	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>Cheltenham R.D.</u>
Live Births (per 1,000 population)	16.4	17.11	18.5
Still Births (per 1,000 total- live & still births)	21.6	20.26	19.8
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	22.6	19.8	18.4
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month - per 1,000 live births)	16.2	14.04	12.9
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.7	10.93	8.9

PREVALENCE of, and CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1958  
(Excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under 1 year		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24		25 & over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	4	2	9	2	-	-	1	-	14	4
Whooping Cough	1	3	8	11	11	13	-	1	-	-	20	28
Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic											-	-
Non-paralytic					1						1	
Measles	2	1	28	42	33	32	-	-	-	1	63	76
Diphtheria											-	-
Dysentery					1						-	1
Meningococcal infection											-	-

	Under 5 years		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia	1	1	-	1	3	-	1	1	1	1	6	4
Encephalitis												
Infective				1	1						1	1
Post-infectious											-	-
Erysipelas											-	-
Puerperal pyrexia						6					-	6

### Scarlet Fever

Scarlet fever was again light in incidence. Eighteen cases were notified during the year.

### Whooping Cough

Forty eight notifications of cases of whooping cough were received. One child died of this disease.

Two hundred and sixty two children were vaccinated against whooping cough, either at the Child Welfare Centres or by family doctors.

### Poliomyelitis

Only one case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis occurred. The scope of vaccination against poliomyelitis was extended in accordance with the national programme and offered to young persons born in the years 1933 - to 1942. It is pleasing to note that Gloucestershire had an acceptance rate of 67% compared with 55% for the country.

### Measles

Measles was not so prevalent as last year. 139 cases were notified, a decrease as against 436, but this illness has a biennial incidence.

### Diphtheria

No cases were notified. The District has been free from diphtheria since 1949.

## Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning occurred, a state which reflects on the standard of cleanliness in the food trade in the district.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation between 1st. January 1944 and 31st. December 1958 :-

Age at 31.12.58	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14
i.e. born in year	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953/1949	1948 / 1944
Number immunised:	17	225	316	306	289	1470	1259
TOTAL number immunised :			3882				

Number of children immunised in:	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Primary -	230	401	368	317	328	445
Maintenance-	94	319	380	324	133	211

There was a falling off in the number of children immunised against diphtheria, only 230 children being protected as against 401 in the previous year.

The decrease is due to the all-out effort being made in the campaign for vaccination against poliomyelitis.

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year. :-

	Under 1 year	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 & over	Total
Vaccination	152	4	9	3	11	179
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	1	10	11

Proportion of children vaccinated under one year of age, expressed as a percentage of the number of births during the year :-

1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
33	38	31	34	42	38	29

Again during the year under review fewer children were vaccinated against smallpox.

The proportion of vaccinated people in the community falls short of that required as an effective barrier to the spread of the disease.

## VACCINATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination:	161	19	5	2	187
Combined Diphtheria/Whooping cough prophylaxis (obtained by and given by General Practitioners)	60	11	3	1	75

## TUBERCULOSIS

### New Cases

	<u>Children</u>			<u>All Persons</u>
	0 - 4	5 - 14		
Respiratory	1	-		11
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-		-
Other Forms	-	-		1

### Deaths

Respiratory	-
Meninges & C.N.S.	-
Other Forms	1

### Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st. December 1958, was as follows :-

<u>Respiratory</u>			<u>C.N.S.</u>	<u>Other Forms</u>			<u>All Forms Total</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
85	47	132	2	16	22	38	172

Twelve new cases of tuberculosis were notified and one person died of this disease. These statistics are typical of the modern pattern of this disease. Deaths are few because of the success of modern treatment, but new cases continue to occur. Tuberculosis can be eliminated but full support is necessary for such preventive measures as Mass Radiography and B.C.G. vaccination which is offered to school leavers.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Clean Food, and Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are in force for securing hygienic methods in the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the open air.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements,

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

#### Section 47: Removal to Suitable

#### Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention

#### National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951 -Section 1

These Acts give local Authorities powers for the compulsory removal of aged or sick people in need of care and attention and which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people.

The compulsory powers were not used during the year but several old people living alone and in failing health were visited from time to time.

The Home Help Service continues to be of great value in rendering timely assistance to old people living alone and so enabling them to carry on.

## Old People's Welfare Committee

The Council have set up an Old People's Welfare Committee to co-ordinate efforts on behalf of old people throughout the whole of the Rural District.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

#### Laboratory Facilities

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream and pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.

The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health, and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Chemical examination of specimens is undertaken by Messrs. Ellis and Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### HOME HELP SERVICE

This Service is organised by the County Council, and charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness.

As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

#### Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the County Council.

Information is available from the Council Offices, or the Divisional Health Office, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

## CHILD WELFARE CENTRES (Gloucestershire County Council)

Apperley	...	2nd.Wednesday & last Thursday
Ashchurch (Northway Church Centre)	...	Alternate Tuesdays
Bishop's Cleeve	...	Each Wednesday
Dumbleton	...	4th.Friday
Leckhampton	...	Each Friday
Prestbury	...	Each Tuesday
The Reddings	...	2nd. & 4th.Thursdays
Shurdington	...	1st. & 3rd.Wednesdays
Stanway	...	2nd.Friday
Stoke Orchard	...	Last Tuesday in the month
Swindon Village(Mobile Unit)	...	2nd. Tuesday
Twynning	...	2nd Thursday
Winchcombe	...	1st. & 3rd. Tuesdays
Witcombe & Bentham (Mobile Unit)	...	1st. & 3rd.Tuesdays

\*\*\*\*\*

## PROGRESS IN DEALING WITH UNFIT HOUSES

### Housing Act, 1957.

During the year the Council made further substantial progress with its programme for dealing with unfit houses in the area. The houses selected to form the THIRD instalment comprised all the Category V dwellings in the parishes of Badgeworth, Coberley, Cowley, Leckhampton, Shurdington, and Staverton. The re-survey carried out in 1954/5 showed that there were 60 Category V houses in these six parishes, but by the beginning of this year 17 had already been dealt with and 8 had been improved and up-graded, leaving only 35 houses to be dealt with. To this number were added three dwellings in other parishes brought forward on grounds of urgency, bringing the total number dealt with in the third instalment to 38.

By the end of the year the formal procedures had been completed, including the hearing by the Council, where required, of owners submissions.

## WATER SUPPLY

Part of the Rural District is within the supply areas of the Gloucester and Cheltenham Corporation's water undertakings.

The Council's supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. All the supplies are chlorinated.

Three samples were taken from Council supplies for bacteriological analysis and in addition thirty three bacteriological and one chemical samples were taken from private supplies.

	No. of Houses	No. of Houses supplied direct into house	No. of Houses supplied by means of stand- pipe.
Alderton	136	126	-
Ashchurch (incl. Aston Cross, Aston- on Carrant, Fiddington & Pamington)	464	423	-
Badgeworth (incl. Bentham and The Reddings)	494	422	-
Boddington (incl. Haydon)	85	84	-
Bishops Cleeve	1194	1182	-
+ Buckland (incl. Laverton)	79	72	7
Coberley	83	30	-
+ Cowley (Birdlip public, Cowley private supply)	101	78	-
Deerhurst (incl. Apperley and Walton Hill)	216	146	-
+ Dumbleton (incl. Gt. Washbourne Little Washbourne & Wormington)	173	( 94 67	-
Elmstone Hardwicke	69	60	-
Gotherington	134	117	-
+ Great Witcombe	31	31	-
Hawling	51	38	-
Leigh (incl. Coombe Hill)	95	93	-
Leckhampton	961	911	-
Oxenton (incl. Woolstone)	54	38	-
+ Prescott	31	26	-
Prestbury	1299	1232	-
Shurdington	470	433	-
Snowhill	71	42	-
Southam	148	148	-
Stanton	90	90	-
+ Stanway	139	137	-
Staverton	122	116	-
Stoke Orchard (incl. Tredington)	174	167	-
+ Sudeley (incl. Charlton Abbots)	42	32	-
Swindon (incl. Brockhampton)	123	117	-
Teddington (incl. Alstone)	57	57	-
Toddington	140	129	-
Twynning	263	127	-
Uckington	112	108	-
Up Hatherley	50	49	-
Walton Cardiff	15	15	-
Winchcombe (incl. Gretton & Greet)	992	975	3
Woodmancote	310	304	-
	9068	8316	10

+ Private or part private piped supplies.

## CHELTEMHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Report by Public Health Inspector and Surveyor on the work of his Department for the Year 1958.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have again the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Department for which I am responsible to the Council.

The activities of the Council have continued to increase and in the succeeding part of the report it is proposed to deal with various duties under separate headings, unless they have already been dealt with by the Medical Officer of Health.

#### HOUSING

The provision of housing accommodation, whilst it is still a very important matter, is less acute than at any time since the War ended in 1945. The building of private houses has continued throughout the year and it is possible for anyone who wishes to purchase to find suitable accommodation within a short period. The number of completed private houses was 250 in 1958, as against 381 in 1957, and the number in course of erection had fallen to 139, as against 194 as at the end of 1957.

The number of houses completed in the District totalled 367, and based on an average of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  persons per house, this means that 1,284 persons have been provided with permanent accommodation during the year.

The efforts of this Council have been directed to providing housing at Ashchurch and Shurdington, these being main centres of population where the Council owned sites with services available. 14 houses were also constructed at Deerhurst and dwellings are now in course of erection at Alderton, Tredington, Stoke Orchard and Winchcombe.

The list of applications for houses fluctuates in the region of 300/350.

The occupation of caravans is still a feature of the housing of people in the district, and a further licensed site came into use during the year.

#### Temporary Housing

At the end of the year 1958 the Council still controlled accommodation on the former camp site at The Park, Stoke Orchard. The policy of the Council is to re-house the families from this site as soon as permanent houses are available and to dispose of the buildings in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Families occupying dwellings on the temporary estate:-

	1957	1958
at The Park, Stoke Orchard ...	75	59

The following figures will illustrate the work involved in dealing with these sites:-

	Year ending: <u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
No. of dwellings	95	59
No. of Repair Orders completed by Contractors	136	97
No. of Repair Orders completed by the Council's staff	160	186
No. of Visits	522	483

From the above figures it will be noted that although the number of dwellings has reduced, the amount of repairs necessary to the remaining dwellings is increasing.

#### Repairs to Council Houses

Repairs to Council Houses are generally carried out by direct labour, and at the end of the year we employed a total of thirteen men upon this work (not including part time of the Foremen). The following figures show the work carried out:-

	Year ending: <u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
No. of houses repairable by the Council at the end of the year (others will be released from Contractors from time to time)	... 1254	1345
No. of Repair Orders completed by the Council's staff (an order may contain several items)	... 1680	1690
No. of Repair Orders completed by Contractors including electricity and gas	... 623	631
Total ...	2303	2321

#### No..of houses overhauled and redecorated externally:

a. By Contract	... 228	238
b. By Direct Labour	... 8	7
	236	245

No. of houses redecorated internally on change of tenancy	4	5
No. of tiled surround fireplaces fitted	65	25
No. of defective draining boards replaced	82	73
No. of defective sets of firebricks replaced	15	25
No. of defective firebaskets replaced	85	52
No. of defective firebars replaced	72	69

No. of defective sinks replaced	7	13
No. of defective sanitary pails replaced	9	8
No. of W.C. pans replaced	24	17
No. of defective taps replaced	36	38
No. of defective flush boxes replaced	9	7
No. of defective chimney pots replaced	7	6
No. of defective lavatory basins replaced	6	11
No. of defective W.C. seats replaced	72	57
No. of gate posts renewed	31	36
No. of roofs repaired	107	120
No. of eaves gutters repaired	83	126
No. of visits to Council houses for various purposes	3761	4275
No. of cases where damage has been repaired at the tenant's expense	13	24
No. of applications to erect television aerials dealt with	153	153

#### Other Activities in Housing

During the year under review the Council's programme for dealing with unfit houses has been accelerated, and a further 63 houses have been removed from the list of Category V dwellings scheduled for Housing Act procedure, thus exceeding by 22 the target of 41 houses per annum set for us by the Ministry.

This THIRD instalment comprised in the main the parishes of Badgeworth, Coberley, Cowley, Leckhampton, Shurdington and Staverton, which at the re-survey in 1954/5 were shown to contain 60 Category V dwellings. Three additional dwellings in the parishes of Winchcombe, Woodmancote and Prestbury were brought forward and dealt with on grounds of special urgency, bringing the total programme, as already stated, to 63 dwellings. Of this number 17 had already been dealt with, and 8 improved and up-graded, leaving 38 still to be dealt with. By the end of the year appropriate action as summarised below, had been taken in respect of each dwelling:-

#### Summary

<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>No.. of houses</u>
Clearance Orders	Nil
Compulsory Purchase Orders	Nil
Demolition Orders	23
Closing Orders	-
Undertakings not to use for habitation until rendered fit for that purpose	12
Undertakings to execute works to render fit for habitation	3
	<hr/>
	38

By the end of the year substantial progress had also been made with the fourth instalment consisting of 86 dwellings in the parishes of Bishops Cleeve, Boddington, Elmstone Hardwicke, Gotherington, Leigh, Oxenton, Prescott, Prestbury, Southam, Uckington, Woodmancote and Swindon. All the dwellings had been inspected and reports and representations presented to the Council in respect of those which called for action under slum clearance procedure.

#### Housing Act 1957.

A.	(1) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas and unfit for human habitation	...	0
	(2) Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas but as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec.17(1).	...	6
B.	Unfit houses closed under Sections 16(4) 17(1) and 35(1).	...	24
C.	Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied		
	(1) after informal action	...	42
	(2) after formal notice under Public Health Acts	...	1
	(3) after formal notice under Sections 9 and 16	...	8
D.	Unfit houses in temporary use retained under Section 17(2).	...	2
	No. of Housing Inspections or re-visits	...	943

#### Improvement Grants

The Council has continued to encourage owners of properties to apply in appropriate cases for improvement grants. During the year 43 new cases affecting 51 properties were approved. The total number of cases approved since the Council became the Authority for dealing with these cases has risen to 246 cases affecting 274 properties, and the amount of grants approved totals £83,542 up to the end of 1958. The results have in all instances been very satisfactory and there is no doubt that this scheme has not only enabled properties to be brought up to a good standard, but it has been the means of retaining properties which possess features that are not present in modern houses. In addition, it has enabled accommodation to be retained and thus avoided the Council having to provide more houses for the occupants.

Year ending: 31.12.57. 31.12.58

No. of houses in respect of which Improvement Grants were issued:-

a. Improvements	60	47
b. Conversions	11	4
No. of inspections regarding Improvement Grants	552	393

## Building Byelaws

The work in connection with the Building Byelaws is as follows:-

New Houses completed:	<u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
Council Houses	72	105
Bishops Cleeve Housing Association	11	-
Dowty Housing Association	11	7
Private Enterprise	381	250
Gloucestershire County Council	4	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	479	367
	<hr/>	<hr/>
No. of houses converted to more dwellings or other buildings converted ...	3	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
No. of houses in course of erection at:	<u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
Council ...	105	17
Bishops Cleeve Housing Association	-	-
Dowty Housing Association ...	7	-
Private Enterprise ...	194	139
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	306	156
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total number of plans received and considered	536	493
No. of plans resubmitted	73	60
Total considered by Committee	609	553
Total number of plans approved -permanent	571	527
Total number of plans approved -temporary	2	3
Total number of plans disapproved	36	23
Temporary approvals renewed	41	19
Plans declared of no effect	86	-
Temporary buildings removed	4	4
No. of informal notices sent	12	10
No. of recommendations to Area Planning Officer	216	272
No. of visits to properties and sites	3193	2643

Each plan when received is checked and acknowledged, and if there is any discrepancy and time permits, the owner's or architect's attention is drawn to this with a view to the necessary alterations being made prior to consideration by the Committee.

Every endeavour is made to inspect work at the following stages - excavation of foundations; completion of concrete foundations; dampcourse; roofing; testing of drains; installation of fittings; and completion.

In a number of cases the owners of houses have obtained loans through the Council under the Housing Acts, 1949 and 1958, and in such cases more frequent inspections are made, and the work is closely checked before certificates are issued for payments.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

Under this heading has been included the work in connection with milk supply, infectious diseases, water supply,

nuisancesm disinfectionations, tents, vans and sheds, factories and workshops, pollution of streams, inspection of food premises, public conveniences and sewage disposal etc. The following figures show the activities during the year:-

	Year ending:	31.12.57.	31.12.58.
No. of complaints received or nuisances discovered		74	138
Nuisances abated		68	101
Complaints not justified		4	10
Informal notices sent		27	61
Statutory Notices served		3	7
No..of visits in connection with the above items		373	631
No..of premises disinfected		2	-
No. of premises disinfested		4	10
No. of new drainage systems installed		58	102
Visits to new drainage systems		260	286
No. of visits to public conveniences		95	124
Infectious disease visits		21	19
No. of visits in connection with street numbering		130	67

#### Inspection of Foods

During the year complaints were received regarding two meat pies. These complaints were investigated and proceedings were successfully taken at the Cheltenham Magistrates Court against the offenders.

The following foodstuffs have been condemned:-

	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Canned Fish			14	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Meat	3	2	6	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Fruit Juice			18	15
Canned Soups			21	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Tomatoes		1	14	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Fruit	5	3	2	15
Canned Vegetables	2	2	4	9
Canned Cream			1	2
Canned Syrup			1	0
Canned Chicken			4	4
Dried Fruit			20	0
Biscuits			1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	12	3	26	12 $\frac{3}{4}$

Tinned Milk ... 39 pints

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	320	2	16	913	285	Nil
Number inspected	320	2	16	913	285	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	16	1	1	24	6	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	5%	50%	6.25%	2.6%	2.1%	-

Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
-----------------------------	------	--------	-----------------------	------	--------

#### Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Total amount meat condemned	=	cwt. 7	qrs. 1	lbs. 3½
-----------------------------	---	-----------	-----------	------------

#### Methods of Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned food is disposed of as follows:-

- By burial in lime.
- In suitable cases by disposal to knackers' yards by arrangement with the adjoining Public Health Authority.

No. of Special Examinations of a Stock or Consignment of food -None.

#### Food Hygiene Regulations

Inspections are carried out periodically at food premises and no prosecutions were made.

The number of food premises in the District is as follows:-

Bakers	6
Butchers	11
Cafes	10
Confectioners	3
Fishmongers	1
General Stores	42
Greengrocers	7
Grocers	9
Sweet Retailers	2
Hotels	9
Public Houses	43

#### Food and Drugs Act 1955 (Section 16 (1)).

No. of premises registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream	...	...	74
No. of applications considered and licences issued during the year	...	...	6
No. of premises registered for the preparation of preserved foods intended for sale	...	...	4

## Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949-1954.

No. of dairies registered	...	...	9
No. of Dealers licences issued during the year authorising the use of the Special Designation			
(a) Tuberculin Tested			5
(b) Pasteurised			4
No. of Supplementary Licences issued during the year authorising the use of the Special Designation			
(a) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	9
(b) Pasteurised	...	...	10

-----

Total No. of visits in connection with the Food and Drugs Acts	...	...	317
--	-----	-----	-----

-----

## Tents, Vans and Sheds

During the year the Council issued a further site licence for 20 caravans and from the figures it will be noted that there was a slight reduction in the number of individual caravans.

The following figures relate to the activities in this section during the year:-

	Year ending:	
	<u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
No. of new applications for licences received	62	61
No. of new applications approved	52	56
No. of new applications disapproved	10	4
No. of applications withdrawn	-	1
No. of previous licences renewed	74	61
No. of renewal applications disapproved	3	-
No. of visits to sites	366	372
No. of informal notices served		9

An inspection of one caravan site in the district revealed the lack of amenities and unsatisfactory conditions regarding the structures. Proceedings against the offender were successfully taken through the Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

## Factories Act, 1937.

No. of insufficient sanitary conveniences rectified	2	-
No. of unsuitable sanitary conveniences rectified	1	1
No. of other offences rectified	1	3
No. of visits to factories	108	112
No. of informal notices sent		4

## Sewage Disposal

During the year the scheme for providing sewers for a part of the parish of Staverton was completed.

The limitations upon capital expenditure were lifted in

November, and Ministry approval was given for the Reddings (Bamfurlong) Sewerage Scheme. Work on this was commenced in December 1958.

Schemes for Aston Cross, Ashchurch; Gotherington and Swindon were in course of preparation.

Samples of sewage effluents were taken periodically at the Council's sewerage works, and 25 samples were submitted for analysis.

No. of visits to Sewage Disposal Works etc. 1368.

#### Water Supplies

The number of new connections made to the mains during the year totalled 375 and of these 88 connections were made to the Council's mains, 284 to the Cheltenham Corporation's mains and 3 to the Gloucester City mains.

No. of visits to supplies, mains, etc. 282.

The total length of cast iron and asbestos distributor mains owned by the Council of diameters from 2-9 inches is approximately 104 miles. In addition there are approximately 11½ miles of galvanised, copper and asbestos pipes of between ¾" and 2" diameter and 21½ miles of supply and pumping mains from 3 to 6 inches in diameter.

#### Refuse and Salvage

In July 1958 the system of refuse collection in the district was reorganised. Previously collections were made weekly in the built-up areas, fortnightly in the villages and monthly in the remote and scattered areas. The new scheme made provision for the built-up areas to receive two collections and the remainder of the district one collection approximately every fortnight. This arrangement proved satisfactory and overcame previous difficulties which had been encountered especially at holiday times.

The controlled method of tipping is undertaken and refuse is tipped at Shurdington, Snowhill, Winchcombe, Prestbury and Twynning.

No. of visits to tips etc. ... 420

Vehicles: 3 Shelvoke & Drewry 16/20 cu.yd. fore and aft tippers.

1 Bedford Compressmore 18/20 cu.yd.

Year ending:	<u>31.12.55.</u>	<u>31.12.56.</u>	<u>31.12.57.</u>	<u>31.12.58.</u>
No. of dwellings	7826	8242	8714	9068
Quantity of refuse collected (approx. cu.yds.)	33000	36000	34000	34500
Distance travelled by vehicles (miles)	36445	37318	35731	35899

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

No. of informal notices served	...	29
No. of visits	...	132

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 and 1936.

No. of informal notices served	...	2
No. of licences issued to store petroleum		95
No. of visits	...	136

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The figures in the following Table insofar as they relate to Tewkesbury apply only to the end of September, when the joint arrangement between the Cheltenham Rural District Council and the Borough of Tewkesbury came to an end.

The visits and treatments made during the year by the Pest Operator are as follows:-

	<u>No. of treatments to premises</u>	<u>No. of Visits</u>	<u>No. of premises inspected (incl. clearing of the its)</u>
Cheltenham R.D.C. Premises	84	248	63
Other premises in the Cheltenham Rural District	272	765	257
Premises in Tewkesbury Borough	53	155	28
	<u>409</u>	<u>1168</u>	<u>348</u>

Total number of complaints received and visited: 46

No. of visits by other members of the staff: 139

Treatment of Sewers

During the months of March and April, the sewers at Tewkesbury, Bishops Cleeve, Prestbury, Shurdington and Winchcombe were test baited. Of 36 manholes baited in our area all were found to be free with the exception of 2 in Prestbury and 3 in Winchcombe. These manholes, together with manholes on either side of them, were successfully treated in the following month.

The sewers at Tewkesbury were treated in September.

A second test baiting was carried out in September on a total of 40 manholes in the parishes of Bishops Cleeve, Prestbury, Shurdington and Winchcombe. Takes were recorded in six manholes, two each in Bishops Cleeve, Prestbury and Winchcombe, and these were treated.

## LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE

This is another heading under which there is considerable activity. The work involved is first in checking the plans and specifications prior to loan sanction, and afterwards inspection of the work to see that it is satisfactory, and certifying payment at the appropriate stages.

During the year advances were made in 27 cases, these totalling £37140; the total advances to the end of 1958 was 241, the amount loaned being £347,144. These figures do not include those relating to the Bishops Cleeve Housing Association and the Dowty Housing Association.

## SUMMARY

The foregoing report deals with the principal sections but during the year there were other fields of activity such as dangerous structures, Milk and Dairies Regulations, Street Numbering, inspection of housing sites, etc. These have entailed many visits and inspections.

The summary of the visits apart from the maintenance of the Council's Water supplies, or the Clerk of Works on Housing, Water or Sewerage Schemes, is as follows:-

	for the year	1956	1957	1958
Temporary Housing		479	522	483
Council House Repairs		3940	3761	4275
Housing Act Inspections		574	901	943
Improvement Grants		532	552	393
Building Byelaws		3586	3193	2643
<u>Public Health</u>				
Nuisances, Statutory Notices etc.	273	373	631	
New drainage systems	311	260	286	
Public Conveniences	51	95	124	
Infectious diseases	28	21	19	
Street Numbering	276	130	67	
Food and Drugs Acts	234	244	317	
Tents, vans and sheds etc.	496	366	372	
Factories and Workshops Act	98	108	112	
Sewage Disposal Works etc.	1317	1472	1368	
Water supplies	150	152	282	
Refuse and salvage	299	340	420	
Public Rights of Way	112	66	132	
Petroleum Act 1928.	121	130	136	
Pest Destruction	1701	1787	1655	
Miscellaneous Visits	407	284	292	
Attendance at Meetings	77	94	95	
		15062	14851	15045

No. of communications despatched from the office during the year ... 4749

As will be seen from the above, the year has again been one of increased activity, and I wish to thank all

members of the Council's staff for the good work they have done during the year, and for the friendly and close co-operation which has prevailed throughout with all departments.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the kindness and consideration which they have afforded when dealing with the work of the Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and  
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E.H. ROSSER

Public Health Inspector and  
Surveyor